



GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 62, No. 47

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

Dec. 5, 2003

In brief

Gate construction changes base access routes

Tyndall Air Force Base's flightline and support side gates -- Tyndall and Illinois gates -- will be closed for construction through March 2004. There will be no change to the Sabre Gate and visitors control center.

Louisiana North and South Gates, located on Highway 98, just east of Tyndall and Illinois gates, will be open 24 hours, seven days a week to accommodate traffic access. The Dixie Gate (flightline area) will be open to accommodate peak periods of inbound (5:30-8:30 Monday through Friday) and outbound (3-5 p.m. Monday through Friday) traffic.

Holiday cookie drive

Homemade holiday cookies are needed for Team Tyndall's Annual Airmen's Cookie Drive. Cookie donations will be collected Dec. 15 from 7-9 a.m. at the loading docks behind the Tyndall Commissary. The goal this year is to package and distribute 600 dozen cookies to airmen in the dorms.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Carianne Melnick at 283-2498 or Resa Cochran at 286-1791.

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Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Two plus tree

Staff Sgt. Jason Swabb, left, and Airman 1st Class Gerald Hogue, 325th Communications Squadron, set up a Leland Cypress Christmas tree at their unit's sales lot outside the base exchange here Tuesday. The airmen are two of many COMM volunteers manning the lot, which is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. In addition to Leland cypress, the lot has Murray cypress, Blue Ice and Virginia pine trees available, priced at \$22 or \$25 for trees under and over 6 feet tall, respectively.

Force Development briefing team visits Tyndall

1ST LT. RYAN FITZGERALD
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Tyndall officers got a chance to learn the details of the Air Force's new Force Development initiative during Air Education and Training Command's "Spread the Word" briefing at the Pelican Reef Enlisted Club here Tuesday.

AETC's briefing team, led by Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander, explained the new concept.

"The program is designed to put the right person in the right job at the right time," said General New.

Force development involves a series of experiences and challenges airmen are exposed to over the course of a career, principally



Photos by Lisa Carroll

General New delivers one of two briefings Tuesday at the base enlisted club.

executed through education, training and duty-related experience, according to the FD Web site.

FD accomplishes that task through a major shift in the way Air Force officers, and later en-

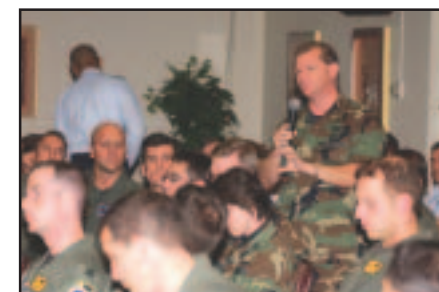
listed members, civilians and Air Guard and Reserve forces are assigned, educated and utilized.

For instance, said General New, no longer is the Air Force going to require "cookie-cutter" educational opportunities. Instead, each officer will be required to have an

Officer Development Plan approved by a Development Team consisting of career field leaders and personnel officers. The plan will be the officer's roadmap to a career in the Air Force, taking into account Air

Force requirements and the personal and professional goals of the individual.

The roadmap will consist of experiences in what the Air Force



A Tyndall officer asks a question following a briefing.

deems the "tactical," "operational," and the "strategic" levels. Junior officers will have experiences in the tactical area,

●SEE FORCE PAGE 6

Training the best air dominance team for America

Volunteers boost success of holiday programs

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving holiday weekend. I was very thankful for the time I was able to spend with my family, and I hope everyone enjoyed the time off as much as we did.

I want to thank everyone who participated in the many holiday activities so far this season. For example, Operation Turkey Drop was a great success, and it is wonderful to be able to give something back to our military community.

Also earning kudos are all of the volunteers who helped the Tyndall Chief's Group welcome area senior citizens to our base. The 19th annual Golden Age Christmas Party took place Wednesday, with nearly 300 seniors present. This celebration is truly one of the best, most unique



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BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

community service programs I've seen in my Air Force career. It is great to see the support the event garners from members of the wing. For many seniors, this venue might be the only celebration they'll attend this year. No doubt, your efforts have helped spread the holiday cheer and make this season much warmer for them.

The holiday season was brightened for the entire base yesterday when Col. Doug Cochran, our 325th Fighter Wing vice com-

mander, hosted the base Holiday Christmas Tree lighting. Thanks to all who made the event a success. I hope everyone takes a moment to enjoy all the base has to offer and gets involved during the holiday season.

On the topic of the holiday season, many of us will be enjoying the parties and celebrations during this time of year. The 325th Services Squadron has introduced a program called "Lodging Against

Drunk Driving." This great new effort sets aside rooms at billeting for anyone who needs them, no questions asked. I encourage anyone who has had too much to drink to trade in their car keys for a room key if you don't have a designated driver.

Please take care of yourself and all of the other people on the road this season. More information will be published on this program in an upcoming issue of the *Gulf Defender*.

For those folks who celebrate outside Tyndall's gates, I encourage you to plan ahead and arrange a safe way home. This will ensure the safety of you, your passengers and everyone else on the road.

Taking care of people reaches beyond holiday celebrations. The end of the calendar year also ushers in annual awards package season. It is easy in the rush of holiday preparation and celebration to put

●SEE HOLIDAY PAGE 3

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live. Action Line calls are recorded and staffed through the proper agency. The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers. If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the office of inspections, 283-4646. Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

Comment: I'm concerned about where new bus shelters are being located in the housing area. We need a bus shelter built near the intersection of Sabre and Thunderchief Drives for the large amount of children at this bus stop. I have talked to the housing office staff and they feel there are not enough children at this stop to warrant a shelter. I disagree, and I think someone should recount the children at various bus stops before other shelters are built. I would like someone to reconsider building a shelter at this location.

Response: Thanks for calling and for being so concerned about our Tyndall school children. The base housing office is working hard to phase in bus shelters for our school-aged children at Tyndall. Currently we have eight bus shelters in housing and were able to purchase four more with year-end funding.

We are budgeting four additional shelters with fiscal year 2004 funds. Tyndall used the October 2003 Bay District Schools Transportation Department survey addressing the number of children at each bus stop to identify the best locations for the four new shelters. Bay County's criteria include the stops that serve the most children and areas that currently have no bus shelters within walking distance. The

school district is required by the state to perform this survey twice a year. The four new shelters will be located at Fighter and Apollo Circle; 3175 Voodoo Dr.; Phantom and Sabre Drives; and Eagle and Sabre Drives (2890 Sabre Dr.)

Pending funding in FY04, the next set of shelters will be placed at Bomarc and Falcon Streets (2920 Bomarc St.); Andrews Loop and Smith Street (north); Andrews Loop and Maysey Court; and Andrews Loop and Hackney Court.

All of these locations serve between 18 and 52 students according to the survey. The intersection of Thunderchief, Sabre and Delta serves 12 students according to the survey. It is ranked in the top 50 percent of bus stops for number of children per stop. Currently we are only able to provide shelters for stops that rank in the top 25 percent.

Comment: While driving on Highway 98 near Tyndall Elementary School, I saw the driver of a vehicle in front of me throw a lit cigarette out of his window, then the

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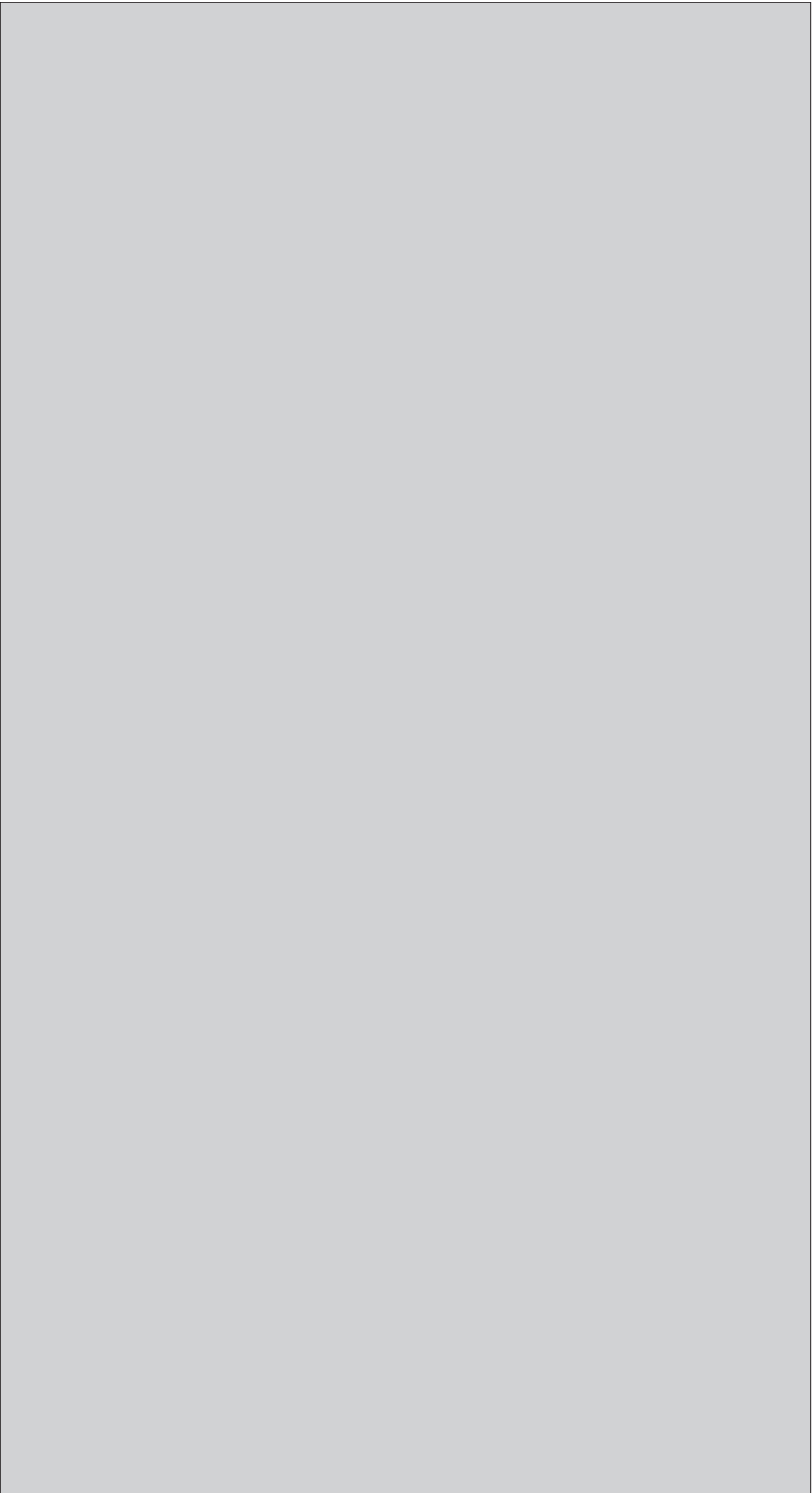
Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 325th Fighter Wing public affairs office. Photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or emailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

● **FROM HOLIDAY PAGE 2**
it off. But now is the time to put together all the necessary data to write effective awards packages capturing all the accomplishments of our organizations and people. The deadline will be here before you know it, so let’s make this one of our top priorities as we close in on the Christmas and New Year holidays.

We were able to capture many individual and team awards last year and we want to recognize as many people this year. The people of this wing have accomplished some really incredible things this year and, as supervisors, it is our responsibility to capture those achievements. Thank you again for all you do, stay safe and have a great week!



● **FROM DRIVING PAGE 2**
passenger did the same thing. I see this often while I’m driving in this area and think something should be done before a fire is started.

Response: In accordance with the Florida Litter Law (403.413), *“it is unlawful for any person to dump litter in any manner or amount in or on any public highway, road, street or any other public lands. When any litter is thrown or discarded from a motor vehicle, the operator shall be deemed in violation of this section. Any person who dumps litter in an amount not exceeding 15 pounds in weight is guilty of a non-criminal infraction, punishable by a civil penalty of \$50. In addition, civil court may require the violator to pick up litter or perform other labor commensurate with the offense committed.”*

Even more pertinent to this scenario, statute 590.10 adds, *“it is unlawful for any person to throw, drop, or dispose of a lighted match, cigarette, or other flaming glowing substance, or any substance or thing which may or does cause a wildfire. Anyone who violates this section commits a first-degree misdemeanor.”*

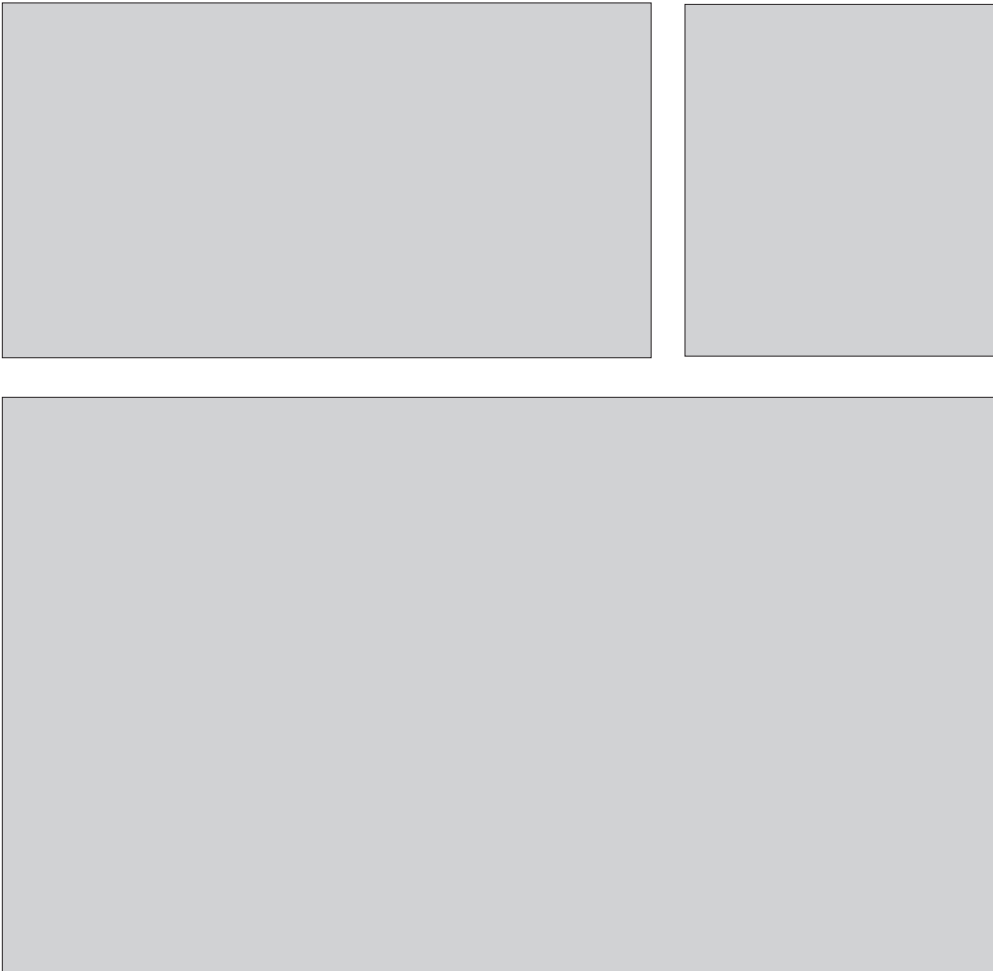
Although it is the duty of all law enforcement officers to enforce the provision of this statute, the problem lies with the

burden of proof that a violation was committed. Similar to requirements for issuing a speeding ticket, the law enforcement officer has to make an independent visual determination prior to citing such a third-degree misdemeanor.

Since they share concurrent jurisdiction on Highway 98, it is the duty of Tyndall’s security forces to enforce this provision. Any patrolman should immediately cite offenses that are witnessed in the performance of duty.

Although witnesses can forward “tips” to the 325th Security Forces Squadron Law Enforcement Desk, dispatched officers must establish their own burden of proof before citing a violation. I urge complainants to document as much pertinent information as possible, to include make/model of the vehicle, time, date, description of violators, etc.

Once this information is documented, visit the law enforcement desk in person and file a formal complaint. Security forces can then open an investigation, attempt to contact the individuals and rectify the matter.





Lisa Carroll

Just like home

Base volunteers serve up a feast during the Tyndall Chapel-sponsored Thanksgiving Singles Dinner Nov. 24 in the Chapel Two annex. The

holiday dinner, featuring the traditional hot roasted turkey, was offered free of charge for all singles, dorm residents, temporary duty and transient members.

Bush signs defense authorization act

JIM GARAMONE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Calling it a landmark piece of legislation that sends the clear message that “Americans stand with the United States military,” President George W. Bush signed the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act in a Pentagon ceremony Nov. 24.

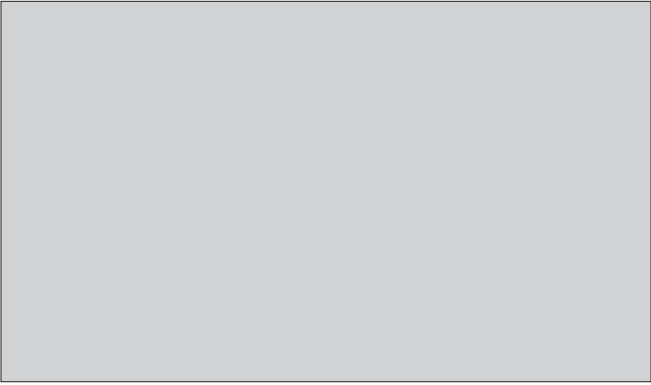
A bipartisan group of legislators and Department of Defense civilian and uniformed leaders attended the ceremony. The act authorizes DOD to spend \$401.3 billion in the fiscal year that began Oct. 1.

“We will do all it takes to keep our military strong, to keep the peace and to keep the American people secure,” President Bush said. The money is in addition to the \$87 billion supplemental bill passed in early November.

“The war on terror is different than any war America has ever fought,” President Bush said. “Our enemies seek to inflict mass casualties without fielding mass armies. They hide in the shadows, and they are often hard to strike. The terrorists are cunning and ruthless and dangerous, as the world saw on Sept. 11, 2001, and again in Istanbul last week.”

But the terrorists now are facing the United States and its allies, “and this threat to civilization will be defeated,”

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● FROM BUSH PAGE 4

President Bush said. The new threats mean the U.S. military must be fast, smart and agile, President Bush said.

“Right now, America’s armed forces are the best-trained, best-equipped and best-prepared in the world, and this administration will keep it that way,” he said. The legislation supports the force with an across-the-board pay raise that averages 4.1 percent, President Bush said. It extends the current payment of \$225 and \$250 per month for hazardous duty/imminent danger pay and separation pay. It reduces housing costs for those living off base, and it keeps up the robust bonus-pay program that has served the all-volunteer force so well.

“Those who risk their lives for our liberty deserve to be fairly paid and fairly treated, and this bill keeps those commitments,” President Bush said. The legislation helps America remain prepared and fully equipped for unseen challenges. “In our new struggle, challenges can emerge suddenly, and so we must always be ready,” President Bush said. The bill fully funds operations and maintenance accounts and amends some environmental laws that had an adverse effect on realistic training for America’s military.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld called the legislation “transformational.” The president agreed.

“This bill also advances the vital work of transforming the personnel system for civilian defense workers so we can put the right person in the right job to meet the challenges we face,” President Bush said. The department’s nearly 700,000 civilian workers have been

laboring under “a cumbersome, inefficient system designed for another century,” the president said. The National Security Personnel System gives DOD managers the flexibility to place civilian workers where they are most needed without needless delay, he said. The bill reduces the time it takes to hire new people, introduces pay-for-performance bonuses and streamlines the promotion process.

“These are landmark reforms — the most ambitious of their kind in a quarter of a century,” President Bush said. “To win the war on terror, America must fully utilize the skill and talents of everyone who serves their country, and this bill will help us achieve that goal.”

Checkertail Salute



Airman Basham is awarded the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award by Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Airman Basham for his outstanding performance in tracking currency for 25 weapons technicians and documenting 11,000 training events while assigned to operations training. His efforts resulted in no lost weapons technician currency and zero discrepancies in accordance with command and numbered air force guidance. He managed his squadron’s trend analysis program, detecting and documenting common errors for testing and live operations. This resulted in the awareness and improvement of 13 trended areas and was cited as “commendable” during the recent Operational Readiness Inspection.

Senior Airman Luke Basham

Duty title: Standards and evaluations technician

Unit: 325th Air Control Squadron

Time on station: Three years, nine months

Time in service: Four years, three months

Hometown: Owensboro, Ky.

Off duty activities: Spending time with my wife and two dogs; watching football

Goals: Get an ROTC scholarship and become an officer

Favorite book: “Do You Love Football?” by Jon Gruden

Favorite movie: “Tommy Boy”

Favorite thing about Tyndall: The people I work with and the local seafood restaurants

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall’s Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.



BRAC process, timeline explained

LAUGHLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — The Department of Defense has received congressional authorization for a base realignment and closure round in 2005.

Called BRAC 2005, the program is a means to achieve several goals: eliminate excess infrastructure to maximize operational capability; optimize military readiness; transform the Air Force by realigning infrastructure with future defense strategy; and capitalize on opportunities for joint activity.

At a minimum, this BRAC round must eliminate excess physical capacity, according to DoD officials. In doing so, the program helps the Defense Department reduce waste, save money and free up resources to recruit quality people, modernize equipment and infrastructure, and develop the capabilities needed to meet 21st century threats, officials said.

All military installations will be equally evaluated, and all recommendations will be based on approved, published selection criteria and a force structure plan, officials said. Both Congress and the Air Force recognize military value must be the primary consideration in reducing or restructuring U.S. military bases.

Congress has authorized BRAC four times in the past: 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995. The Air Force has closed 22 bases as a result of BRAC. Through 2001, BRAC actions have saved DoD about \$16.7 billion, with an esti-

ated recurring savings of \$6.6 billion annually.

Timeline

- December 2003: Secretary of defense submits the selection criteria used to make recommendations. Once posted, there will be a 30-day public comment period.
- February 2004: Department of Defense publishes its final selection criteria.
- March 2004: Congress approves or disapproves criteria. Disapproval requires a joint resolution.
- March 2005: Presidents nominates nine BRAC Commission members.
- May 2005: After gathering information and completing a comprehensive analysis, the secretary of defense will submit recommendations for realigning or closing bases to the independent BRAC Commission.
- May to September 2005: Commission review process.
- September 2005: The commission forwards its report on the recommendations to the president.
- Sept. 23, 2005: Date by which the president must accept or reject the recommendations in their entirety and forward to Congress.
- Nov. 7, 2005: Date by which Congress must act on the recommendations, if accepted. A joint resolution is required to disapprove.

(Compiled by 47th Flying Training Wing public affairs)

Adverse actions

The following adverse actions took place at Tyndall Air Force Base in November.

Article 15:

An airman first class from the 325th Air Control Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman, 45 days extra duty, 45 days restriction to Tyndall AFB, and a reprimand for dereliction of duty (underage drinking), drunkenness/incapacitation for

performance of duties, and making a false official statement.

Administrative discharges:

An airman from the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron received a general discharge for drug abuse (marijuana).
An airman first class from the 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron received a general discharge for minor disciplinary infractions.

Open court dates

Two courts-martial will take place which are open to the base public. The first begins 8:30 a.m. Monday; the second begins 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday in the base courtroom, Bldg. 662.)

● **FROM FORCE PAGE 1**

gaining a depth of knowledge in their primary career field. Field grade officers will expand their knowledge base via educational and professional challenges inside and outside their primary specialty in what is known as the “operational” experience area. Senior officers will employ the skills they have gained in the operational and tactical areas to lead the Air Force, known as the “strategic” career area. The formal system is an improvement, said General New. “The Air Force, right now, does not have a systematic way of developing our officers to become senior officers,” he said. “This force development is designed

to put more rigor to the development process and give us better senior officers in the end that have the qualifications and capabilities we need.”
Officers can see the first result of the new program when logging onto the Assignment Management System at the Air Force Personnel Center Web site, where they will find the replacement for the old preference worksheet, the Temporary Officer Development Plan. Other visible changes will be launched soon, with a full implementation of the program in early 2004. For more information about the force development program, visit www.dp.hq.af.mil/afslmo/fd.

Act gives commissary, other benefits

The fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act offers reservists and their families unlimited commissary privileges, better health benefits and an overall average military pay raise of 4.15 percent.

President George Bush signed the defense bill Nov. 24. It allows reservists in the Selected Reserve, reserve retirees under age 60 and their families to have access to commissaries on the same basis as active-duty people, retirees and their families. The act authorizes a minimum pay hike of 3.7 percent with additional increases to midgrade and senior noncommissioned officers and midgrade officers.

To improve readiness, the law allows Department of Defense officials to provide immediate medical and dental screenings and care to reservists who are assigned to a unit that has been alerted or notified of mobilization. Reservists can obtain improved TRICARE coverage until Dec. 31, 2004, under the following circumstances:

■ Nonmobilized reservists and their families can enroll on a cost-share basis if the reservist is unemployed or the employer does not offer health insurance.

■ Coverage for mobilized reservists and their families can begin up to 90 days before the start of the reservists' active duty. Previously, coverage started only when the active-duty period began.

■ Coverage can continue up to 180 days after separation from active duty. Previously, coverage lasted up to 60 or 120 days after separation, depending on the years of service.

Another change expands eligibility for family members to enroll in DOD Dependents Schools on a space-available, tuition-free basis. In the past, this benefit was limited to families of reservists who were recalled from an overseas location. The change also allows DODDS enrollment if reservists are recalled from a continental U.S. location. *(Courtesy of Air Force Reserve Command News Service)*

Technology helps locate shooters

ROME, N.Y. (AFPN) — Military people in world hotspots might soon tell where people shooting at them are located by using technology Defense Department and Air Force researchers are developing. Network Embedded Systems Technology uses a system of sensor nodes that can be scattered throughout a given area, checkpoint, building or vehicle convoy, said Juan Carbonell, who helped develop the technology.

These nodes track the shock wave a bullet creates as it moves through the air, he said. They detect the time the acoustic shock and muzzle blast arrives when a shot is fired within the nodes' range to determine where the shot came from.

"We're hoping this will help our people in Iraq," Mr. Carbonell said. "They say sometimes their vehicles are so noisy they don't even know they're being shot at until two or three shots arrive. With NEST, they'll not only know they're being shot at, but can find out where the shot came from."

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency officials with support from Air Force Research Labo-

ratory Information Directorate experts recently demonstrated the technology at Fort Benning, Ga.

The technology's goal is to "fine-grain" fuse physical and information processes, Mr. Carbonell said. The objective is to build dependable, real-time, distributed, embedded applications comprising 100 to 100,000 simple computing nodes which will include physical and information-system components coupled by sensors and actuators.

"This initiative is inspired by extraordinary advances in microsensors, microelectronics, advanced sensor fusion algorithms, self-localization technologies and information technologies," Mr. Carbonell said. "NEST is advancing capabilities in networked sensor technologies, hardware, software and communications. The long-term vision is an intelligent, Web-centric distribution and fusion of sensor information that will greatly enhance warfighters' situational awareness."

The nodes will be small enough and rugged enough to be seeded in operational environments via aerial drops, robotic emplacement and manual distribution, Mr. Carbonell said.

The Fort Benning demonstrations included a military operations coordinate grid and shooter localization using a sensor network.

The coordinate grid demonstration provided real-time tracking of blue,

red and neutral forces within the grid, Mr. Carbonell said. Participants were given active tags, and their locations within the grid were shown in both a handheld personal computer and a laptop computer.

The system was accurate within two meters and it took about two seconds to determine the shooter's location, he said.

The shooter localization demonstration used an ad-hoc wireless network of inexpensive acoustic sensors to accurately locate enemy shooters, Mr. Carbonell said. The wireless nodes were fitted with a custom sensor board that contained a microphone and some additional processing capability.

A number of live fire and blank shots were taken from different areas within the demonstration area, and the system accurately located them all, Mr. Carbonell said. For the live-fire shots, the system also provided a visual vector in the direction of the bullet.

The system used in this demonstration was accurate to within one meter and took less than a half second to determine where the shooter was located. The system even showed the difference between shots being taken by a soldier while kneeling or standing up, Mr. Carbonell said.

(Courtesy of Air Force Materiel Command news Service)

Sacred trust

Tyndall ecosystem
balances mission,
environmental protection

JIM WESLOWSKI
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

(Editor’s note: This is the final installment of a four-part series highlighting Tyndall Air Force Base’s environmental stewardship programs.)

With jets flying overhead, military members working to keep the mission on track and others going about their daily routines, one might not realize the vast ecological system on the 29,000-acre peninsula known as Tyndall Air Force Base.

“There are 26 vertebrate and 18 plants found on Tyndall listed as endangered, threatened or species of special concern to the federal government or the State of Florida,” said biologist Dr. Jack Mobley, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight. “Most people know that sea turtles and black bears are protected. It’s the lesser-known animals, such as the endangered Choctawhatchee beach mouse, or plants, such as Godfrey’s goldenaster, we must ensure visitors do not disturb or kill.”

The base’s military operations and housing areas occupy nearly 6,000 acres. The remainder of the base is mostly wilderness comprised of planted pine forest, hardwood hammocks and coastal wetlands filled with animal and plant life.



File photo

Michael Prazak, a Tyndall Elementary School student, plants a sappling during one of the school’s environmental conservation projects here.

“We have areas protected as bird of prey nesting zones for eagles, falcons and osprey that either migrate or remain here year round,” Dr. Mobley said. “We also have other areas on the base listed as critical habitat areas, where the mice, turtles and plovers live and nest. These are some of the programs we have to protect animal and plant life and areas they need to flourish.”

“Managing this vast wilderness area while military operations are underway can be a challenge,” said base forester Bob Bates, also assigned to the 325th CES Environmental Flight team. “We have a planted pine forest in which we allow limited recreational use. We conduct controlled burns to reduce the risk of fires in the forest

and improve habitat. We also allow seasonal hunting of small game and whitetail deer when base security allows.”

“Tyndall’s ecosystem management is difficult,” Dr. Mobley said. “The protected species we have here are diverse and dependent on our careful management of lands needed for the mission and lands needed for their protection.”

“We have built several nature trails throughout the base to help educate visitors to the importance of the entire ecosystem,” Dr. Mobley said. “Throughout the year several youth groups, including the scouts and students from

●SEE TRUST PAGE 10

Making the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission’s official list, animals protected on Tyndall include:

- American alligator
- Atlantic loggerhead turtle
- Florida manatee
- Gulf sturgeon
- Atlantic green turtle
- Leatherback turtle
- Gopher turtle
- Atlantic Ridley turtle
- Alligator snapping turtle
- Southeastern snowy plover
- Piping plover
- Little blue heron
- Reddish egret
- Snowy egret
- Tricolor heron
- White ibis

- Arctic peregrine falcon
- Southeastern American kestrel
- American oystercatcher
- Bald eagle
- Osprey
- Black skimmer
- Least tern
- Choctawhatchee beach mouse
- St. Andrews beach mouse
- Florida black bear

Protected plants include:

- Southern milkweed
- Spoon-leaved sundew
- Gulf lupine
- Giant water dropwort
- Godfrey’s goldenaster
- Large-leaved jointweed
- Chapman’s crownbread
- Bog tupelo



Courtesy photo

Black skimmer shown in nest with chick.

- Apalachicola dragonhead
- Violet flowered (Chapman’s) butterwort
- White-flowered wild petunia
- Harper’s, Quillwort, Kral’s and

- Drummond’s yellow-eyed grass
- Panhandle spiderlily
- Thick-leaved water willow
- Carolina liliaeopsis

'Golden Age Christmas'

Chiefs Group, volunteers treat Bay County seniors to unique brand of holiday entertainment



Left, Santa Claus congratulates 96-year-old Lulu Bell Harvey and presents her with a prize as the event's most senior guest. The 19th annual Golden Age Christmas took place Wednesday in the Pelican Reef Enlisted Club.

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Right, Staff Sgt. Yahil Sanchez, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, dazzles her audience with a traditional Panamanian dance performance.



Chief Master Sgt. William Southall, 325th Mission Support Group, gestures to the audience as members of the Sweet Adelines try to persuade him to join them in singing a holiday tune.



Seated guests take in the entertainment inside the Tyndall enlisted club ballroom.



The Rutherford High School Ensemble entertains with an a capella performance of one of several holiday favorites.

Right, Airman Daniel Graham, 1st Aircraft Maintenance Unit, dances with guest Ernestine Grinstead. Dozens of Tyndall airmen did likewise with many of their delighted senior guests.



Tax statements available on myPay

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFPN) — Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials have compiled a schedule of dates when servicemembers, military retirees and annuitants and defense civilian employees can access their tax statements through myPay.

Military members and Department of Defense civilian employees will have access to view, save and print their tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. For assistance, users can call myPay customer support at (800) 390-2348.

MyPay provides a secure method for users to manage their pay account information, officials said. Available around the clock, customers can make changes online, instead of visiting a finance office.

Officials are projecting the tax statements will be posted on myPay during the following periods.

— Military annuitants: Dec. 13-18

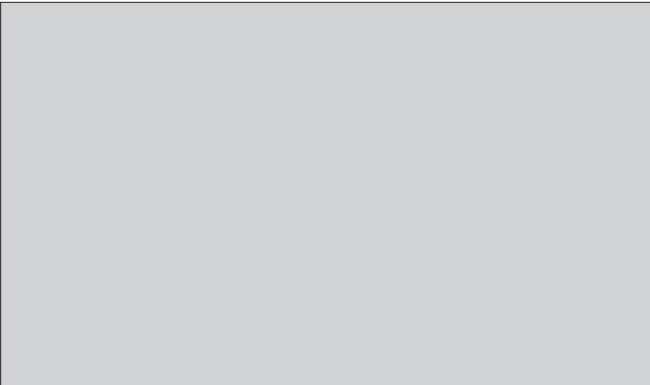
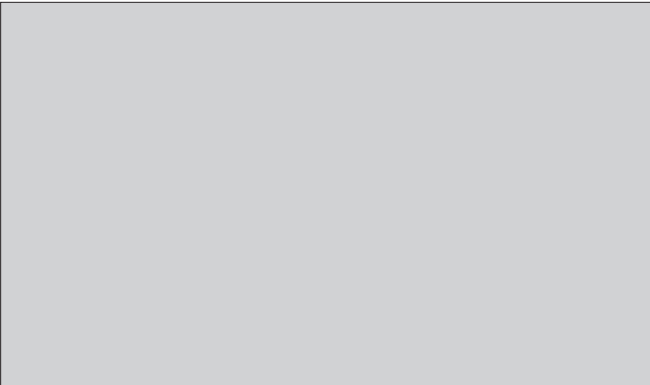
— DOD civilians: Dec. 24-29

— Army, Air Force and Navy reserve components: Dec. 26 to Jan. 1

— Military retirees: Jan. 1-5

— Army, Air Force and Navy active duty: Jan. 16-26

“During 2003, more than 1.2 million users viewed their tax statements on myPay, and we continue to encourage users to view and print their statements online,” said Pat Shine, director of DFAS’ military and civilian pay services business line. “Timely access to W-2s and other tax statements is another way myPay gives users control of their pay information.”



Military establishing global network

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The U.S. military is working to establish a state-of-the-art global communications network designed to provide real-time information to warfighters.

The network will gather massive amounts of information and provide users “the right information at the right time,” said Ron Jost, Department of Defense director of wireless communications.

The backbone of the system will be an Internet-based Global Information Grid that will feature 101

satellite-supported communications sites set up worldwide, Jost said.

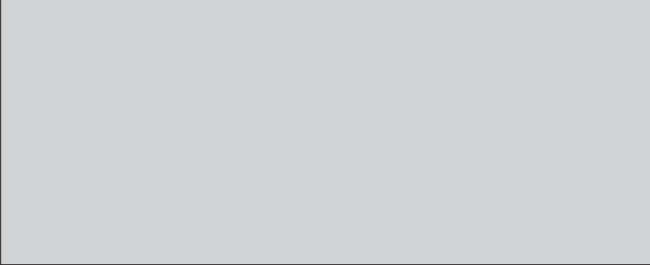
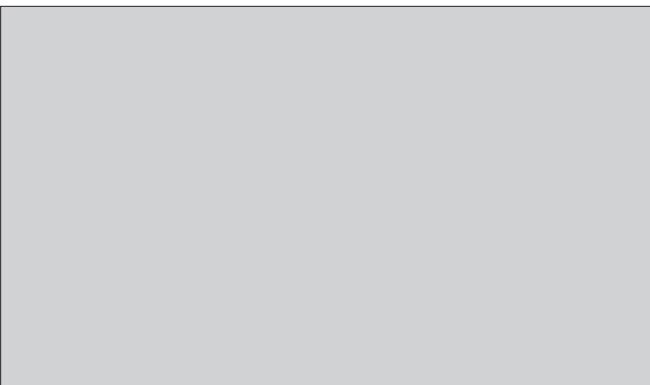
Another component of DOD’s future communications system is the Joint Tactical Radio System — a single family of radios designed to replace incompatible units currently in use by each of the services, Jost said.

Advanced computer systems and sophisticated software will allow users in the field to “ask” the system for real-time battlefield information, Jost said.

“If I’m out in the field, and I

need to know what’s on the other side of the hill, rather than get data that’s 24 or 48 hours old, I can actually make that request to get (current) information that might have come from (an unmanned aerial vehicle)” or other sources, he said.

Information security “is (designed) within the fabric of the system,” Jost said. Passwords and other safeguards will be used to restrict access and monitor system usage, he said.



● FROM TRUST PAGE 8

the local schools, donate their time to help maintain or build new trails and plant seedlings.”

“We also open our hunting and fishing areas up to the general public,” added Mr. Bates. “For a small fee they are able to hunt deer, turkey and small game when in season. We have largemouth bass, bream and catfish in most of the ponds. We even issue firewood-cutting permits in designated areas.”

One ongoing program the youth have been helping us with is the sea oat replanting programs, according to Dr. Mobley. For the past four years the base issued a collect permit to an individual who gathered a large amount of sea oats from the base, and in-turn, provided a percentage of the seedlings in exchange. When Natural Resources received the plants, the youth groups helped the staff replenish the sand dunes.

The sea oats help control the erosion on the beach and provide a food source for the mice and birds.

“Throughout the years local youth have also been assisting with the turtle nesting program and planting trees in designated areas,” Mr. Bates said. “For the past 10 years the base has met all the requirements by the National Arbor Day Foundation to be officially recognized as a Tree City USA.”

“Any effort to save the natural beauty, animals and plants helps,” Dr. Mobley said. “But, when you look at the entire team effort at Tyndall, and how the individual environmental programs overlap help each other, you can see how resources are used effectively to protect an entire ecosystem while we do our primary military missions. Hopefully we can continue to do this while not making the jet fighter endangered.”

Wing’s IG team available to resolve complaints

Who would you see if you thought you were re-
prised against, had a fraud, waste and abuse com-
plaint or a military-connected complaint? First, you
would try to resolve the issue with your chain of
command, but if you needed special assistance then
you could use the Inspector General Complaints Pro-
gram.

“We are here to give you that special assistance,”
said Master Sgt. Brian Hampton, the 325th Fighter
Wing’s new deputy inspector general. The primary
focus of the Inspector
General’s Complaints Pro-
gram is a leadership tool to
indicate to commanders
where involvement is
needed to correct systems,
programs, or procedures and
to resolve problems that affect the Air Force mis-
sion. The complaints program also creates an at-
mosphere of trust in which issues can be identified
and resolved without the fear of any form of retri-
bution, retaliation or reprisal.

“The inspector general is an independent, disin-
terested, unbiased third party,” Sergeant Hampton
added. “We cannot fix everything; however, we will
either substantiate or not substantiate your com-
plaint, and we will provide you and your commander
with the findings of our investigation.”

The IG may also refer people to other agencies
on Tyndall, such as the area defense counsel, mili-
tary equal opportunity, civilian personnel office, secu-
rity forces, office of special investigations or lo-
cal unions if the complaints/issues are within their
scope of responsibility.

“We cannot please everyone, but 100 percent of
the issues are resolved,” said Col. Armand Grassi,
325th Fighter Wing IG. “The Department of Defense
IG Complaints Program handles more than 8,500 ac-
tions annually. We are people helping people and also
facilitators trying to find a way to resolve your com-
plaint/issue,” added Colonel Grassi.

Also, those who want to write a congressional in-
quiry can visit the 325th FW IG office, which will
ensure the allegations are accurately reflected. The

IG’s office will be responsible
for investigating the complaint.

Miscommunication was found
to be the root cause for most
complaints. Having an open
line of communication within a
chain of command can remove

barriers and possibly avoid an investigation. Mem-
bers should make every attempt to resolve com-
plaints at the lowest possible level using their chain
of command before addressing them to a higher level
or the IG.

Also, members must submit a complaint within 60
days of learning of an alleged wrong. To file a com-
plaint anonymously through the Department of De-
fense IG FWA Hotline, call DSN 223-5080, com-
mercial (703) 693-5080, the Secretary of the Air
Force FWA Hotline: DSN 425-1562, commercial
(703) 588-1562, Fax: DSN 426-2555, commercial
(703) 696-2555, or the Tyndall AFB Inspector Gen-
eral Hotline.

For any questions, contact Colonel Grassi at 283-
4646 or Sergeant Hampton at 283-3268. *(Submitted by 325th FW Inspector General staff)*

Have a complaint?
Use the Inspector General Hotline
283-4646

‘Vast majority’ of Iraq relatively stable, Rumsfeld says

JOHN BANUSIEWICZ
American Forces Press Service

BRUSSELS, Belgium --
Though sporadic violence continues
in Iraq, Defense Secretary Donald
H. Rumsfeld said here today that
“the vast majority of the country” is
relatively stable and not in conflict.

Rumsfeld, along with Marine Gen.
Peter Pace, vice chairman of the
Joint Chiefs of Staff, met with re-
porters at NATO headquarters here,
where the alliance’s defense minis-
ters are engaged in a two-day con-
ference.

“There’s no question but that there
are periodic incidents where people
have been killed or wounded – we
know that,” Secretary Rumsfeld
said. “We also know that the schools
are open, the hospitals are open, the

clinics are open, that people are en-
gaged in economic activity through-
out the country, and that the vast ma-
jority of the country is not in con-
flict. It is in a relatively stable cir-
cumstance.”

The secretary said a limited num-
ber of people in Iraq are determined
to kill both innocent people involved
with the coalition and innocent Ira-
qis. “Those people are also being
rounded up, captured, killed,
wounded and interrogated,” he said.

General Pace, who said he had
just visited Iraq, agreed with the
secretary’s assessment. “You have
those who are bent on preventing
the Iraqi people from experiencing
freedom – those who look and see
what tremendous progress has been
made and are afraid that their ‘thug-

gery,’ their way of intimidation, is
in fact being overpowered” by the
coalition and the will of the Iraqi
people, General Pace said.

The vice chairman said it’s hard
to tell on the basis of one attack
whether the Dec. 1 firefight in
Samarra, Iraq, that left dozens of
insurgents dead means they’ve
changed their tactics or have ac-
cess to coordinated intelligence.
“The fact is that in this particular
case, about 50 or so of the enemy
did collect together for whatever
reason they thought was appropri-
ate,” he said. “They attacked, and
they were killed. So I think it would
be instructive to them for future
analysis when they’re thinking
about what they’re going to do
next.”

Your link
to what's going on

Gulf Guide

in the
Tyndall community

NOTES

ERAU registration

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Spring 2004 Term registration is set for 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily Jan. 5-9 in Building 1230, Room 48. Class dates are Jan. 12 to March 13. For more information, call 283-4557.

New York Air National Guard positions

The 109th Airlift Wing, in Scotia NY, home of the C-130 ski-birds, has Traditional Guard vacancies in the following career fields: 1A2X1, 1C0X2, 1C3X1, 1N0X1, 2A5X1, 2A5X3, 2A6X1, 2A6X2, 2A6X4, 2A6X5, 2A6X6, 2A7X1, 2A7X3, 2E1X3, 2F0X1, 2S0X1, 2T0X1, 3C1X1, 3C3X1, 3M0X1, 3P0X1, 4A0X1, 4A1X1, 4A2X1, 4D0X1, 4N0X1, 4P0X1, 4T0X1, and 6C0X1, as well as full-time active duty positions in the following AFSCs: 2A5X1 and 2E271. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Wesley Ryerson, 109 AW/DPR, by e-mail at Wesley.Ryerson@nyscot.af.mil or DSN 344-2456 or 1-800-524-5070.

TAAA meeting scheduled

A Tyndall Active Airmen's Association meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday at the community activities center.

Gospel singers needed

Volunteers are needed in vocal and instrumental capacities for a newly-forming gospel choir. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Capt. Benita Arcenau at 283-4133.

BHC meeting

The Tyndall Black Heritage Committee meeting is scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday in the community activities center. New members and participants are always welcome. For more information, call Maj. Reuben Sparks at 283-5442.

SIU representative visits

A Southern Illinois University Carbondale representative will visit Tyndall from 9:30-11 a.m. Thursday.

The representative will conduct an orientation and answer questions in the hospital's conference room for students interested in a bachelor of science degree in health care management. Admission paperwork and registration for the Spring 2004 semester, which begins Jan. 1, will be at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

PWOC birthday party

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will hold a birthday party for Jesus in the Chapel 2 Annex 9-11 a.m. Dec. 13. The celebration will feature crafts, music, fellowship, baking, skits and more. All ladies of the Tyndall community are welcome. Participants are asked to bring an unwrapped book, game or personal care product for children at the Anchorage Children's Home in Panama City. Ladies can also bring an ornament to exchange. For more information, call Chapel 2 at 283-2925.

Thrift shop open Saturday

The Tyndall Thrift Shop will open 9 a.m.- noon Saturday. Normal operating hours are 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The shop will close Dec. 13 for the holidays and reopen Jan. 7. The shop is located at 743 Suwannee Road, across from the post office. The shops phone number is 286-5888.

Commissary operating schedule

The commissary's hours during the holiday season:
Dec. 22 — Open. Parents can bring their children to see Santa and take a picture with him free of charge from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available and a gift from Santa for each child.
Christmas Eve — Closes 4 p.m.
Christmas Day and Dec. 26 — Closed
Dec. 29 — Open
New Year's Day — Closed

325th AMXS sponsors blood drive

The 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is sponsoring a blood drive, conducted by the Northwest Florida Blood Center, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jan. 16 beside Hangar 2 on the operational side of the base. Shirts and refreshments will be available for donors. For more information, call Karen Sieczka at 785-6958 or Staff Sgt. Kavanoz Holland at 283-3116.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Catholic Services

The following Catholic services will be held at Chapel 2: Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday; Reconciliation, after Saturday Mass or by appointment; Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.; Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.; religious education, 11 a.m. Sunday.

Protestant Services

Protestant services will be as follows: Communion service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel 1; religious education classes, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Building 1476; general Protestant service, 11 a.m., Chapel 2.

RETIREE NEWS

Bush signs 2004 Authorization Act

President Bush signed the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act in a Pentagon ceremony. The act authorizes the Department of Defense to spend \$401.3 billion in the fiscal year that began Oct. 1. "We will do all it takes to keep our military strong, to keep the peace and to keep the American people secure," President Bush said. The money is in addition to the \$87 billion supplemental bill passed earlier this month. "The war on terror is different than any war America has ever fought," the president said.

In the retiree area, the FY 2004 NDAA authorizes concurrent receipt of retired pay for disabled military retirees rated at 50 percent or higher phased in over a 10-year period. This becomes effective in January 2004. It also authorizes pay of combat-related special compensation to members with any qualifying combat-or operations-related disabilities. The Act also establishes statutory requirements for the Pentagon to take action to attract more providers to participate in TRICARE Standard and assist beneficiaries in finding participating providers.

There has been little information disseminated by official military sources, but more is expected over the next couple of weeks as the entitlements' staff gets a chance to review the entire package. As information becomes available, it will be sent out through the Air Force Retiree News Service and posted on the Retiree News web site.

A summary of the FY 2004 NDAA can be found at www.house.gov/hasc/.

(Courtesy Air Force Retiree News Service)

Free Classifieds

The Gulf Defender will publish free classified ads here for the one-time sale of personal property excluding real estate for active-duty military, retirees and Department of Defense civilians working on Tyndall. Ads are run on a space-available basis and must be limited to 25 words or less. Duty numbers are not allowed. Submit ads to editor@tyndall.af.mil.

Dorm challenge heats up with pajama bowl

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron publicist

After the 5K Turkey Trot Nov. 20, Dorm 1680 leads the Dorm World Challenge and will try to keep the lead at tonight's pajama-bowling party at Raptor Lanes Bowling Center.

The event begins at 11:30 p.m. Teams from each of the five dorms, and anyone else who has a pair of pj's, will converge on the bowling center for the second round of the Dorm World Challenge, a series of events held for dorm residents during the holiday season.

This AETC-sponsored program puts the five dorms of Tyndall in head-to-head competition in several different events. A bowling tournament is one of those events, but the Tyndall Dorm Council, along with several dorm representatives, came up with the idea for a pajama-bowling party at the Dorm World Challenge Kickoff Party Nov. 14.

"We weren't sure how many people would turn out if it were just a bowling contest," said Airman Matt Ritchie, Dorm Council vice president. "So we made it a pajama party and (scheduled) it later."

There will actually be two separate categories to compete in for this event. Each team's total score, and the number of spectators from the team's respective dorms, each count for separate points.

There are several prizes that may get even more dorm folks to the bowling center. A free plane ride from the Tyndall Aero Club and several prizes from local businesses are all up for grabs.

"With this bowling pajama party, we will have given away almost \$300 in door prizes so far," said Jean Cole, community activities center director. Prizes were given out at the kickoff party and the 5K run, and will also be given away at other Dorm World events.

This event is the second of several planned for this program. The next event is a puzzle assembly contest at the CAC Dec. 20 beginning at 6 p.m. Four people at a time will work on the puzzle. There will be a three-hour time limit. The total number of pieces assembled determines the winner.

"We're also going to have a pool tournament going on at that time," Ms. Cole explained. "And we're going to be showing movies too. That way, if people take a break from working on the puzzle, they'll still have something to do."

Planning for all events of the Dorm World Challenge has not been completed at this time, but AETC is requesting all bases complete the program by Jan. 20. The winning dorm will receive funding for a dorm party which includes T-shirts, food and a disc jockey. Second place winners will receive a smaller scale dorm party with food.

AF announces prom sweepstakes

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Air Force officials announced the start of the fourth annual "Win the Perfect Prom Sweepstakes" Monday.

The sweepstakes, which runs through Feb. 29, offers high-school students a chance to win prizes, including the grand prize, an all-expenses-paid prom and a live prom concert by recording artists Wakefield.

Air Force officials are holding the prom sweepstakes to reinforce and expand a message for high-school students: "Be safe. Be smart. Be sober. Make the right choice."

"We're serious about helping young people to make good choices," said Master Sgt. Juan Demiranda, an Air Force Recruiting Service account executive. "Students will be constantly exposed to the message, but not browbeaten, lectured or otherwise bombarded with a boring message. They get it. They know that an otherwise perfect prom can be ruined in an instant by the unsafe and unwise use of alcohol or drugs. All we want them to do is make the right choice during this high-risk event."

More than 12,000 high schools across the country received promotional materials to show students how to enter the sweepstakes. The program also will be highlighted in popu-



lar teen magazines and on Web sites. Students can enter online at www.airforce.com or www.perfectproms.com.

The grand-prize winner will be drawn at random March 1. He or she will receive a \$1,500 cash allowance for personal expenses such as a tuxedo rental or a new dress, glamour makeover, corsage or boutonniere, or other expenses. The prizewinner will also ride to the prom in a Hummer limousine. His or her high school will receive \$20,000 to cover prom expenses such as banquet facility rental,

catering, decorating, photography, mementos and a disc jockey.

Ten first-place winners will each receive a \$500 allowance for personal prom expenses, while 25 second-place winners will each get a \$150 allowance. Weekly prizes of Wakefield's compact discs also will be given away.

Officials said the best advice for high-school students is to graduate, keep out of trouble, stay away from drugs and remember to exercise both mind and body.

(Courtesy of AFRS News Service)

HALO

Thomas Stater, Chris Patten and Brad Turner closely watch a television screen in the Tyndall Enlisted Club while competing in a video game contest Saturday. More than 75 people gathered at the club to watch 33 gamers play "Halo," a first-person shooting game. After two-and-a-half hours, Aquilino Alveo-Forbes was the last person standing, winning a \$100 base exchange gift certificate. Alexander Hernandez took second place.



Steve Riddle



Funshine NEWS



December 5, 2003

All Ranks Lunch

at the Officers' Club

Mon.-Thurs.: \$6.95 ■ Friday: \$7.95
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Unlimited access to the daily buffet, salad bar, fountain soda, tea & coffee!

Includes Fresh, Hot, Carved Meat Sandwiches on Kaiser Roll

Monday	Chef's Choice
Tuesday	Italian
Wednesday	Oriental
Thursday	All American
Friday	Seafood

*Members, show your club card to receive a \$1 discount!

On Base Food Delivery

■ Lunch Menu: Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Limited to office deliveries (i.e. squadron addresses)

■ Evening Menu: Fri. & Sat. 5:30-9 p.m.

Subs & Pizzas
286-2900

Crazy Cash Give-away at the O Club Every Friday during Social Hour.

Jackpot starts at \$100. The first member name drawn is for the jackpot. If there is no winner \$25 will be added to next week's jackpot (max. \$500).

Once the name is drawn the winner has 5 minutes to claim their prize. If the winner fails to claim their prize a second drawing will be held from bar receipts for \$25.

Don't stay in your dorm room.
Come out and play...
you could win a party for your dorm.

The Dorm World
Play the Game

**Pajama Party
Bowling Challenge**
December 5
11:30 p.m. at Raptor Lanes

Puzzle Assembly
December 19, 6 p.m. at the CAC
4 person teams,
participants may tag in and out
3 hour time limit
entertainment & snacks
Call 283-2495
for details.

Leave The Driving To Us

2003 Holiday Designated Driver Program

The program which asks club members to volunteer to be a designated driver at various club events throughout the holiday season, was created in an effort to place special emphasis on reducing alcohol related incidents during. Program ends Jan. 5, 2004. Call the club to see how you can help make the

283-4357

Also here for you: LADD

Lodging Against Drunk Drivers

Lodging has set aside rooms each Friday and Saturday night for those of you who wish to party at one of the clubs on base but who do not wish to drive home afterwards. The cost per room is \$24.50 per night. NO QUESTIONS ASKED. Rooms will also be available during the holidays for personnel who schedule their holiday parties on base. For more information, please call the reservations office at 283-4211, x3346, 3348 or 3343 to request reservations. If the squadron is paying for the rooms as group, rather than individually, the POC may stop by the day of event to pay for the rooms, and pick up the keys. You will not be reimbursed if the rooms are not used. We at the Sand Dollar Inn wish everyone safe weekends and Happy Holiday and encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity.

Football Frenzy

Each visit to the CAC Pizza Pub is your chance to win a pro game trip! Enjoy a large, 1 topping pizza and a pitcher of Miller Lite for \$8.50 every Sunday.



Sponsored in part by:

AA Military Benefits Group



No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

283-3222

Sealed Bid Vehicle Sale

1988 Ford Mini Van, mileage: 73,022.3
Item may be viewed in the parking lot behind 113 Suwannee, Bldg. 1129 and bids placed inside Bldg. 1129 room 10. For more information contact Elaine Mobley 283-2781. Item is sold as is. Bids will be accepted through noon December 17.

Bowling Center

☎ 283-2380

Tyndall AETC Bowling Team Announced

Gary Hite, Rebecca Carey, Kimberly Thompson, Kelly Baumgardner, Michael Smith, and Ed Bates will leave for Lackland AFB, Texas Saturday to represent Tyndall at the 2003 AETC Bowling Championship. The Tyndall bowlers will compete against teams from other AETC bases in singles, doubles and team competition.

The three-day tournament begins Monday. The best bowlers there will earn a trip to the Air Force Bowling Training Camp, which will be held this year in Las Vegas. More than 100 people will attend this year's camp, with only the best six being selected to represent the Air Force at the All-Military Bowling Tournament. The Air Force is the tournament's defending champ.

Community Center

☎ 283-2495

Guitar Lessons

For beginners to advanced. Cost is \$10 per half hour. Guitars available for lessons.

Bonita Bay

☎ 283-3199

Paint Ball and Ropes Course Closings

Due to the youth hunts on the following weekends the paintball course and ropes course will be closed: Dec. 6-7, & Dec. 20-21.

Horseback Riding Lessons

Open to all ages. Call for details.

Lodging

☎ 283-4211

Holiday "Space A" Rooms

Due to an Air Force waiver, the Sand Dollar Inn is now taking "Space A" reservations for Thanksgiving holiday and the Dec. 12 to Jan. 4 Christmas and New Year's holiday. You may book up to an eight-day stay for Thanksgiving and up to a 20-day stay over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Community Activity Center

☎ 283-2495

Pig Skin Picks

Forms are available at the CAC & Sports Page Pizza Pub. Prizes will be awarded. Ace the weekly Pig Skin Pick and receive one free Pizza Buffet. Sponsored in part by AA Military Benefits Group. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

Don't miss the annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa

at the Youth Center

Saturday, Dec 6 • 8-11 a.m.

Register for holiday door prizes, make a craft, visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus

\$1.50 ages 12 & under

\$3.00 ages 13 & above

283-4366

ITT Notice

Travel (air and non air bookings) hours have been changed to 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Mon.-Fri. (Closed Sat. & Sun.) The other operations of ITT have merged with Bonita Bay and are open the same hours as Bonita Bay (closed Tue. & Wed.)

283-2499

Start Flying Now!

For many, flying is just a dream fulfilled by a piece of folded paper. With the help of your Aero Club's Flight Training Center (FTC) you can move beyond paper dreams. Whether flying for the first time or adding a new rating to your pilot's license, we can help you reach new heights. The Aero Club provides flight training with skilled instructors, well-maintained and equipped facilities, and pricing well below most general aviation instruction. You may even qualify to use VA education benefits to minimize the cost for advanced ratings. If you are active duty or retired military, a DoD civilian employee, or a family member of someone who qualifies, then you can join over one million men and women who made their dream of flight a reality.

Introductory Ride \$49
283-4404

Tyndall family members excel at Irish dance meet

Six Irish Dancers triumphed this weekend at the Glas Tara Feis in St. Augustine, Fla.

Tyndall family members Savannah Barrier, Bailey DeSaussure, Danielle Gracey, Victoria Jones, Elizabeth Kane and Sean Kane all brought home medals in the Reel and Light Jig categories.

In the Reel category, Savannah, Bailey and Victoria took first place in their respective age categories. Elizabeth and Sean took second while Danielle took fourth.

In the Light Jig category, Victoria and Sean took first place while Savannah, Bailey and Danielle took second and Elizabeth took third.

The dancers were competing against individuals from all over the country. Many of the dancers are members of military families assigned to Tyndall.

For more information on the dance group, call Teresa Kane at 871-2582. *(Courtesy Irish Dance Club)*

Thinking of getting out?

THINK AGAIN!

Make sure you’ve got all the facts first! Contact **Master Sgt. Jeffrey Kahapea**, 325th Fighter Wing career assistance adviser, at **283-2222** for information on your career and its future.

Tigers take second in Thanksgiving tourney

The Tyndall Tigers men’s varsity basketball team traveled to Keesler AFB, Miss. over the Thanksgiving weekend to participate in the Annual Southeastern Military Athletic Conference Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament. The Tigers joined the Eglin Eagles, Robins Hawks and Keesler Dragons in a four-team round robin tournament.

Eglin-86, Tyndall-74

In their first game versus Eglin, the Tigers started slowly, as Eglin jumped out to an early lead that reached double digits before Tyndall trimmed the margin to six points, 39-33 at the intermission. In the second half, the two squads battled back and forth with Eglin maintaining a lead of 4-6 points until Eglin’s center Ensign Williams connected on three consecutive three-pointers down the stretch to deny the Tigers any hopes of mounting a comeback.

Omar Johnson and Israel Figueroa led the Tigers in scoring with 18 and 17 points respectively, followed by Lance Clark and Marvin Gamble with 10 points each. Gamble and Figueroa also led in rebounding with 10 each. Andrew David led Robins in scoring with a game high 20 points.

Tyndall-90, Keesler-70

In their second game of the day, the Tigers faced the host Keesler squad. Tyndall started quickly, combining a tenacious defense and efficient offense end to build a 37-26 lead at the half. The Tigers steadily increased their lead in the second half as all nine players who suited up for the game got into the scoring column. The Tigers sailed on cruise control to take the win.

Tarrance Garner and Omar Johnson paced the Tigers in scoring with 21 and 18 points respectively; followed by Ryan Cunningham with 15 and Marvin Gamble with 10. Gamble paced the Tigers in the rebounding category with 12 followed by Israel Figueroa and Lance Clark who both pulled down 10 boards; Johnson led in assists with 8. Andre Topp led Keesler in scoring with a game high 32 points.

Tyndall-70, Robins-58

The Tigers final game of the round robin tourney pitted Tyndall (1-1) vs Robins (1-1), with the winner advancing to a championship game if Keesler defeated Eglin in the final game of the round robin. The Tigers jumped out to an early that they maintained to lead 34-23 at the intermission. In the second half, Tyndall maintained a comfortable lead throughout the final stanza and sealed the victory from the free throw line down the stretch as they connected on 10 out of 12 attempts.

Lance Clark paced the Tigers in scoring with a game high 17 points, followed by Tarrance Garner and Israel Figueroa with 11 points each and Omar Johnson and Keith Castille with 10 points each. Figueroa led the Tigers in both rebounding (13) and assists (8) as he barely missed a triple double. Keith Ward and Fabian Benson led the Hawks in scoring with 14 points each.

Eglin (3-0) defeated Keesler (0-3), 84-72, in the final game of the tourney to win the championship.

The Tigers will travel to Hurlburt Field this weekend, in a matchup pitting the first place Tigers against the second place Commandos, in SEMAC action. Game times are 3 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday.

(Courtesy Tyndall Tigers)

